

LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF WILMINGTON, N. C.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER, 1848-9.

Encouraged by the success of the previous year in the work and labor of love for which we are associated, the ladies appointed to office for the annual meeting, set about their work with cheerfulness and zeal, and to-day they can adopt the language of the prophet, "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us."

Objects of extreme destitution and suffering have met the eyes of the visitors in most of the districts through which they have been called to pass in the prosecution of their duties; and their hearts have been often cheered by viewing the comfort they have been enabled (through the bounty of this society) to impart. But alas! too often has it been obvious that the destitutions of sin were before them, and the cause of these miseries lay beyond their reach.

Could the members of this society exert an influence in restraining the vice of Intemperance, far more effectual would be the relief afforded the suffering and destitute than through any pecuniary aid they can bestow. We are here to-day, to take a survey of the year now closing, and to enter anew upon the duties before us for another.

The hand of God has been with us—no fell destroyer has thinned our ranks—and it becomes us to acknowledge the mercy and to devote ourselves afresh to the service of Him who, in countless instances, has used our efforts in his vineyard.

But we have to regret that although strenuous efforts have been made to increase the funds of the Society, by exciting an interest in its behalf in the female portion of our community that should add to the number of subscribers, the books show a smaller subscription list than at any previous time. The amount received has come far below the demands upon the Treasurer; and had there been a surplus in hand from several of the earlier years, the officers might have been compelled to hear in vain the many applications for relief. But help has been afforded from other quarters. There are benevolent hearts among us unconnected with our Society.

Several gentlemen during the extreme cold of the past winter, generously placed in the hands of several of the visitors various sums to be used in furnishing warm clothing, covering, wood, &c., which the funds of the Society could not afford—aiding only that the relief should not be restricted to cases of sickness. With this aid they have been encouraged to go forward—hoping that in future their hands will be better filled with blessings for the sick and needy.

The Treasurer reports only \$30.00 by subscription the past year, & donations to the amount of \$6.50. The balance in the treasury last year, \$40.52, makes the amount \$77.02. Of this \$55.12 have been distributed in various ways, leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of \$21.90. Should this state of things continue, the Society's operations must soon be at an end. Look at the facts. In the year past, when the general depression has increased the outgo, and poverty among us, the amount contributed for their relief by those who have to give is \$26.60 below the actual expenditure—and no more has been done than was strictly required for the comfort of those we profess to succor. Ladies of Wilmington, shall it be said that thirty only of us inhabit a town long famed for generosity and the kindness are found willing to give alms, to the small amount of one dollar annually through this Benevolent Society for the relief of the sick and suffering among us? Oh! let it not be told that the appeal to you for such a cause is made in vain! and let us who are members of this Society, solicit our brethren, remind them that there are objects of charity around us pining for aid, gather their contributions, enlist the feelings of the gentler sex in behalf of suffering humanity, and be prepared to go forth increased in numbers, and with renewed energies, to the prosecution of our most delightful task—entering the abodes of wretchedness, and suffering, and comfort and hope to the careworn and destitute, that shall spring them afresh to take their places among men, with the cheering thought that sympathy yet lives in other hearts for them. And may God prosper us, filling our hearts too with peace, and joy and truly happy.

By order of the Society,
G. G. KENNEDY, Sec. & Treas.
Mrs. J. A. TAYLOR, 2 Directors.
Mrs. W. M. BARNES, 2 Directors.
Wilmington, April 14th, 1849.

Verdict in the Hinchman Case.—We learn from the Baltimore Clipper, that the great case of Morgan Hinchman, in Philadelphia, who sued his mother and several others, to recover damages for conspiracy, in confining him in the insane hospital, on the pretence that he was a lunatic, in order that his relatives might get possession of his property, was brought to a close on the 14th inst., after pending for five weeks, by the jury rendering a verdict against Samuel S. Richter, Edward Richter, John M. White, John Lippincott, John L. Kite, George M. Elkinton and Elizabeth R. Shoemaker, and assessing the damages, at \$10,000.

The jury acquitted Anna W. Hinchman, Philip Garrett, Josiah M. Worthington, Benjamin W. Warder, Wm. Biddle, Thomas Wister, Jr., and Dr. Griscom. It is supposed a new trial will be asked for, or an appeal be taken to a higher tribunal. This trial has created a great excitement here, and the court room was this morning thronged at an early hour to hear the verdict.

Arrival of Emigrants at New York.—The total arrivals of Emigrants at New York during the first three months of the preceding year, were as follows:

	1848.	1849.	1850.
January	7,371	8,248	877
February	3,500	3,819	5,239
March	4,399	1,640	5,253

Totals 15,270 13,707 11,359

Showing an increase in the arrivals during these three months of no less than seventy per cent., and that too during the most inclement period of the year.

Manufacture of Gold.—We have read that Boyle once very nearly succeeded in making gold; that he showed the experiment to Sir Isaac Newton, when both became frightened and threw away the ingredients, and the gentleman communicated to the editor of the Mining Journal, that having experimented some two years ago on the stratification of the earth and the formation of mineral deposits, he believes with truthful results, he turned up one of his old experiments accidentally a few days ago, when he found, running in a kind of spiral stream through a small quantity of gold. No gold was used in the experiment, and the conclusion arrived at is that it had been formed from some of the other substances. This, however, is nothing to what is asserted by an iron-founder of this town. "This gentleman must have observed the truth philosopher's stone, which many sayages of olden times speak of, and he is trying to obtain. He declares that he has found out a process by which he can change any quantity of iron into gold. Before three months are over, he says, he shall hear more of this marvel. He promises to produce gold in lots—in short in any quantity.—*Liverpool Advertiser.*

Doctors' Fees in California.—A letter from a young hero boy in California, written January 6, says:

"I worked about eleven days, averaging \$104 per day; was then taken sick with the fever and had a very severe time of it. I received four visits from the nearest doctor, which cost me six dollars, and he tried to cure me with six pills, and paid him the sum of \$600—\$150 per visit—leaving me about sixty dollars in pocket, after paying for my provisions, which are high in proportion."

Delicacy in the Extreme.—A young gentleman lately bathing in the Mississippi, on observing some ladies approaching, drowned himself from motives of extreme delicacy.—*Polish young man.*

WILMINGTON MARKET.

WHOLESALE PRICES.

BACON.—Per pound.	
Hams	\$1.84
Shoulders	74
Streaks	74
Flour	74
Wheat	74
Barley	74
Indian Meal	74
Peas	74
Beans	74
Green Beans	74
Onions	74
Carrots	74
Turneps	74
Potatoes	74
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